

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-06 TRSE-00 LAB-04
SIL-01 OMB-01 EA-10 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01
NSC-05 SS-15 /089 W
-----077518 210250Z /70

R 201038Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4379
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 01198

USEEC

E.O.11652:GDS
TAGS: EEC, JA, ETRD
SUBJECT: EC-JAPAN

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH COMMERCE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WEIL ON JANUARY 18, EC DIRECTOR GENERAL SIR ROY DENMAN
STATED THAT JAPANESE MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC RELATIONS USHIBA WOULD VISIT COMMISSION ON
JANUARY 28 AFTER STOPS IN SEVERAL MEMBER STATE CAPITALS.
DENMAN SAID THAT THE COMMISSION IS CONTINUING TO
EVALUATE THE US-JAPAN JOINT COMMUNIQUE IN TERMS OF
ITS LIKELY EFFECTS ON EC TRADE AND THAT THE PRELIMINARY
IMPRESSION IS NOT WILDLY ENCOURAGING. DENMAN, AND IN
A LATER CONVERSATION HAFERKAMP'S CHEF DE CABINET
FROSCHMAIER, AGREED WITH WEIL THAT THE JAPANESE APPEAR
FINALLY TO BE GETTING THE BASIC MESSAGE, AND THAT IT
WOULD NOT BE UNTIL THE AUTUMN OF 1978 THAT EFFECTS COULD
TURN UP IN THE TRADE BALANCE. THE EC DOES NOT EXPECT
IMMEDIATE RESULTS; THE ESSENTIAL THING IS TO TURN THE
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TREND AROUND. FROSCHMAIER THOUGHT THAT CONTINUED
PRESSURE ON THE JAPANESE COULD BE COUNTER PRODUCTIVE
AND SAID THAT THE COMMISSION IS HAVING PROBLEMS WITH
SOME OF THE MEMBER STATES WHICH WANT TO PUSH THE JAPANESE
TO SET A HIGHER GROWTH TARGET. HE DID NOT THINK THIS
WAS WISE.

2. IN LATER CONVERSATION, DENMAN TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT UKG CONCERN OVER JAPANESE EXPORTS IS PART OF LARGER UK PROBLEM WHICH INCLUDES EXPORTS FROM OTHER EC MEMBERS AS WELL. SINCE THERE IS NO WAY THAT UK CAN TAKE MEASURES AGAINST OTHER EUROPEANS WITHOUT MAJOR EC CRISIS, THEY ARE USING JAPANESE AS A TARGET - AND ONE WHICH IS POLITICALLY POPULAR AT HOME AS WELL.

3. THIS CABLE DRAFTED AFTER WEIL'S DEPARTURE. HINTON

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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